

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 750
By Person, Curtis

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Shaun Carl Micheel of Memphis on winning the 85th PGA Championship.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is pleased to specially recognize and commend those great athletes who have brought honor to this state through their exploits and who through their hard work and great success serve as excellent examples of the high quality of the citizenry of the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, Shaun Carl Micheel of Memphis is one such Tennessean who achieved singular success in 2003 by winning the 85th PGA Championship at Oak Hill; and

WHEREAS, the achievement capped a memorable year in the world of golf during which all four major titles were captured by first-time winners for the first time since the year of Mr. Micheel's birth; and

WHEREAS, over four grueling days of competition, Shaun Micheel performed with extraordinary consistency, becoming the only player not to shoot above par in a single round as he finished the tournament at 4-under-par 276; and

WHEREAS, one shot from his clinching round of 70 on Sunday will forever be engrained in the minds of golf fans; with the tournament up for grabs, he calmly struck a 7-iron from 175 yards out on the 18th hole, statistically the toughest hole on what Tiger Woods deemed the toughest, fairest course he had ever played; and

WHEREAS, the ball rose from Micheel's blade in a magnificent arc, returned to earth just short of the green, bounded three times, and began to roll across the putting surface toward the hole as the roar of the crowd gained volume with each inch; and

WHEREAS, a hill prevented Mr. Micheel from immediately knowing the results of his artistry; after approaching the green under a tremendous shower of applause from the gallery,

he crested the hill, received his first view of the ball as it lie only two inches from the cup, and knew that he would soon hold the Wanamaker Trophy; and

WHEREAS, playing partner and Championship runner-up Chad Campbell said later, "His shot on 18 was just phenomenal. That's probably the best shot I've ever seen under pressure."; and

WHEREAS, as he tapped in the final putt, Shaun Micheel became the first player to win the PGA Championship in his first attempt since John Daly in 1991; and

WHEREAS, the championship rewarded years of hard work and dedication that prepared Mr. Micheel well for a moment on top of the golf world; and

WHEREAS, from childhood, Shaun Micheel has been a talented athlete, playing football, basketball, and baseball before deciding to concentrate on golf as a Freshman at Christian Brothers High School in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, he attended a golf camp staged by the Tennessee PGA at Fall Creek Falls State Park, which became the launch pad for his outstanding career; and

WHEREAS, in 1984 and 1986, this young golfer served notice of great things to come by winning the TSSAA State Championship; and

WHEREAS, he parlayed his prep success into a position on the prestigious Indiana University golf team, and his collegiate career was highlighted by numerous honors, including becoming a Collegiate Golf Championship Medallist, winner of the LG Balfour Award for bringing honor and distinction to IU and the Jake Gimble Award for Golf, and member of the All-Big Ten and All-American squads; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Indiana University, Shaun Micheel began his professional career in 1992 on the South African tour; in 1993, he played on the Golden Bear and Hooters mini-tours; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, he realized a dream by earning his PGA tour card by posting the lowest score at Q-school; and

WHEREAS, in 1997, he gained his first professional championship by winning the Singapore Open on the Asian tour, and he built upon that success the following year by winning

his first professional championship on his native soil at the Greensboro Open on the Nike Tour;
and

WHEREAS, since 1999, he has focused his efforts on the PGA Tour, the highest level of golf in the world, and his efforts were justly rewarded on August 17, 2003, in Rochester, New York as he became one of the elite few to etch his name in history as a major title champion;
and

WHEREAS, Mr. Micheel was joined in celebrating the magnificent accomplishment by his loving wife, Stephanie, his mother, Donna M. Micheel, his father, Buck W. Micheel, and his sister, Shannon R. Micheel; and

WHEREAS, an even greater celebration was to follow in November, as Shaun and Stephanie celebrated the birth of a son, Dade Palmer Micheel; and

WHEREAS, the event was the unquestioned highlight of a year that will forever be cherished by the Micheel family and remembered by the golf fans of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Micheel for his dedication and remarkable endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Shaun Carl Micheel of Memphis on winning the 85th PGA Championship, salute professional and personal excellence, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy